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FLOOR DEBATE

February 9, 2004 LB 1049

existing statute.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: The Department of Labor.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay, so if I leave for a good cause...or without good cause, whatever that means, and I kind of want to know what that means as well, then I apply for benefits and they can deny them to me after...you know, before seven weeks?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Yes, they can deny. The average is about seven weeks, in some cases eight weeks, and some cases up to ten weeks, but the average is a little over seven weeks they can deny.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. So...

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: But you still collect for the...the total benefits for unemployment is 26 weeks.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. So it's just a matter of do you qualify sooner?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Right.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. You'd still get the same 26 weeks. It's just do you get it after 7 to 10 weeks, or, under your proposed bill, after 13 weeks?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Right.

SENATOR BOURNE: So you'd have to sit at home for, what is that, three months and a week before you could qualify. What is "if leaving a job without good cause"?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Well, most of that is established in case law...

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: ...in Nebraska. So I've got some examples that I will read if the debate goes on...